832. [*Transferred to the 12th May, 1988.*]

Expert Committee on Textiles

833. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up an Expert Committee on textiles recently;

(b) if so, what is the composition of the Committee;

(c) whether any representatives of the workers have been included in the Committee; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (c) Government have decided to appoint such a Committee but the Committee has not yet been set up.

Rise in price of natural rubber

834. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether most grades of natural rubber have become scarce and there has been a sharp rise in their prices recently;

(b) whether this scarcity situation has arisen mainly due to the failure of the State Trading Corporation to import adequate quantities of rubber in time and distribute it; and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Report of the Asian Development Bank on domestic savings

835. SHRI PRAVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank in its recent report has stated that a further rise in India's domestic savings rate will be needed to sustain economic growth; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken on the basis of the report of the Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) This observation has been made in a study prepared for the Economic Office of the Asian Development Bank and does not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Bank.

(b) Government are providing, from time to time, fiscal and other incentives to augment savings in the economy.

Export of iron ore through Paradeep Port

836. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the export of iron ore through the Paradeep Port by the Minerals and Matals Trading Corporation has decreased in 1987-88; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what action Government have taken to step up exports through this Port?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The decline in exports from Paradeep was due to lack of infrastructural facilities at Paradip Port to handle large vessels and resultant increase in freight and the landed cost and lower exports to Romania. To